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### UM seeks public comment on study of athletics program

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Nov. 27, 2002

**Contact:** Jim Lopach, UM professor and Grizzly faculty athletic representative, (406) 243-4829.

### **UM SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON STUDY OF ATHLETICS PROGRAM**

#### **MISSOULA –**

The University of Montana has reviewed all aspects of its athletics program and now wants the public to comment on its finding.

UM has completed a self review as part of the requirements to retain NCAA Division I athletics certification. Committees appointed by UM President George Dennison and comprising University faculty and administrators, student-athletes and community members have scrutinized the athletics program for much of the year.

“Opening up athletics programs to public scrutiny represents the core of the NCAA process,” Dennison said. “At stake is whether the University retains its NCAA certification.”

Anyone interested in commenting on the study can find draft reports in the President’s Office, Intercollegiate Athletics administrative offices in the Hoyt Athletic Complex and the Mansfield Library Reserve Room or online under “NCAA Certification” on the University’s Web page at [www.umt.edu](http://www.umt.edu). Comments may be sent to the President’s Office, Main Hall 109, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT, 59812, or faxed to (406) 243-2797. Comments also may be submitted via e-mail to [wilsonj@mso.umt.edu](mailto:wilsonj@mso.umt.edu).

The NCAA-required study focuses on four topics: governance and rules compliance;



academic integrity; financial integrity; and equity, student welfare and sportsmanship.

After receiving comments, UM's NCAA Certification Steering Committee will make final revisions in the self-study report. The report then will be sent to the NCAA. In late April 2003, an NCAA peer-review team will visit the Missoula campus to conduct interviews and review documents. The NCAA's final decision on certification will come later next year.

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